

## HEALTHCARE INTERPRETATIONS TASK FORCE INTERPRETATION

**Number:** HITF.1999.003

**Date:** November 16, 1999

**Code:** NFPA 10, 1998 Edition; Section 1-6.2

**Background:** Some AHJ's (inspectors) require signs marking the location of portable fire extinguishers to be mounted perpendicular to the wall in which the extinguisher cabinet is mounted. They also require this same type of signage when extinguishers are surface mounted on a wall. The referenced code section requires only that "extinguishers mounted in cabinets or wall recesses...be marked conspicuously."

**Question:** Is it the intent of NFPA10 to require signs marking the location of wall mounted portable fire extinguishers when not in cabinets or recesses?

**Answer 1:** NO

**Question 2:** Where signs are installed to meet the marking requirements of the referenced code, must they be mounted perpendicular to the wall in which the extinguisher cabinet is mounted?

**Answer 2:** NO

**Question 3:** If the answer to question 2 is no, does a conspicuous sign, including those mounted parallel to the wall, meet the intent of this section?

**Answer 3:** YES. NFPA 10, Section D-2-2.2 provides guidance to support this position.